Description	**Precipitating polyclonal sheep antiserum to human C4 binding protein**
Product code	ShAHu/C4bp
Biological origin	Sheep
Physical form	Delipidated, heat inactivated, lyophilized, stable antiserum.
Preservative	No preservative added.
Immunogen	C4-binding protein is a plasma protein with a molecular weight of 500,000 and consists of 6 chains. Its concentration in serum is about 250 μg/ml. It is one of the inhibitors of the complement activation system. The protein combines up to six molecules of C4b at or near the C2 combining site and is thus preventing further association with C2. It has been isolated as a homogenous protein for use in the antiserum production. Freund's complete adjuvant is used in the first step of the immunization procedure.
Adsorption	Immunoaffinity adsorbed using insolubilized antigens as required, to eliminate antibodies reacting with other human serum proteins. The use of insolubilized adsorption antigens prevents the presence of excess adsorbent protein or immune complexes in the antiserum.
Identity & Specificity	The reactivity of the antiserum is restricted to C4 binding protein. In immunoelectrophoresis and radial immunodiffusion, using various antiserum concentrations against human plasma a single precipitin line is obtained and shows a reaction of full identity with the purified immunogen.
Cross-reactivity	The antiserum does not cross-react with any other human plasma proteins as tested in gel-diffusion techniques. Inter-species cross-reactivity is a normal feature of antibodies to plasma proteins, since homologous proteins of different species frequently share antigenic determinants. Cross-reactivity of this antiserum has not been tested in detail.
Protein concentration	Total protein and IgG concentration are comparable to those of pooled normal sheep serum. No foreign proteins added.
Antibody titre	Precipitin titre not less than 1:4 when tested against normal human plasma in agar-block immunodiffusion titration.
Intended use	In precipitating techniques as immunoelectrophoresis and single and double radial immuno-diffusion (Mancini, Ouchterlony) to identify the presence of C4 binding protein or to determine its concentration. The presence of non-precipitating antibodies has not been assayed. This does not exclude the use of the antiserum in non-precipitating antibody-binding techniques if proper controls are included.
Directions for use	In immunoelectrophoresis in agarose-plates use 2 μl human plasma or equivalent against 120 μl antiserum. In double radial immunodiffusion use a rosette arrangement with 10 μl antiserum in 3 mm diameter center well and 2 μl plasma samples (neat and serially diluted) in 2 mm diameter peripheral wells.
Packing	Vial with 1 ml lyophilized antiserum.
Storage / shelf life	Lyophilized at +4°C — at least 10 years reconstituted at or below -20°C — 3-5 years reconstituted at +4°C — 7 days
Handling	The lyophilized antiserum is shipped at ambient temperature and may be stored at +4°C; prolonged storage at or below -20°C. Reconstitute the lyophilized antiserum by adding 1 ml sterile distilled water. Dilutions may be prepared by adding phosphate buffered saline (PBS, pH 7.2). Repeated thawing and freezing should be avoided. If a slight precipitation occurs upon storage, this should be removed by centrifugation. It will not affect the performance of the antiserum. Diluted antiserum should be stored at +4°C, not refrozen, and preferably used the same day.
Caution	This antiserum should be handled by qualified persons only and appropriate precautions should be taken in its handling and disposal, and of all associated materials. For *in vitro* research purposes only.

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